



BIOGRAPHY

FRANK W. BALLANCE, JR.

Frank Ballance is a product of rural eastern North Carolina. He was born on a farm in Bertie County on Feb. 15, 1942, the third child of Frank Winston Ballance and Alice Eason Ballance. He grew up surrounded with love in a Christian home. At an early age, he was taught to be proud of himself and his African heritage.

After completing high school in Bertie County, Ballance attended and graduated from North Carolina Central University with undergraduate and law degrees. He is married to Attorney Bernadine Smallwood Ballance, a member of the N.C. Industrial Commission.

Frank and Bernadine are the parents of three children, Garey M. Ballance, a District Court Judge; Angela Ballance Mebane, a family practice physician in private practice in Greenville; and Valerie M. Ballance, who has earned a master's degree in technology and is currently employed in real estate development.

Mr. Ballance has lived in Warrenton (Warren County) since 1966 and has practiced law for more than 35 years and is a member of Greenwood Baptist Church of Warrenton, where he serves as Chairman of the Deacon Board.

A former state legislator who served in both the North Carolina House and State Senate, Mr. Ballance held the leadership position of Deputy President Pro Tempore of the Senate he held until his election to Congress in 2002.

Congressman Ballance serves on the House Agriculture Committee where he has been tapped for the Conservation Credit, Rural Development and Research Subcommittee and the Department Operations Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry Subcommittee. Congressman Ballance also serves as vice-chairman of the House Democratic Caucus Task Force on Children.

Dedicated to bringing jobs to eastern North Carolina, Congressman Ballance also serves on the House Small Business Committee where he was appointed to the Tax, Finance and Exports Subcommittee, and is the ranking Democrat on the Rural Enterprise, Agriculture and Technology Subcommittee.

Congressman Ballance has held numerous civic and political positions including past Chairman of the First Congressional District Democratic Party, past first Vice Chair of the N.C. Democratic Party and past President of the Warren County Branch of the NAACP.

He has also been honored with several awards and special recognition. For instance, in 1996, he was selected by the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers as "*Lawyer of the Year*" and in 2001, he was presented the "*Thurgood Marshall Award*". He was presented the ACLU "*Frank Porter Graham Award*" in 1998. The N.C. Committee of the Legal Defense Fund honored him in 1999. He received the "*Friend of the Working Man*" Labor Award from the AFL-CIO in 2000, and in 2001 the "*Legislator of the Year*" Award from the N.C. Low-income Housing Coalition.